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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An intelligent telephone notification method, comprising:  
sampling ambient conditions;  
detecting an event requiring notification; and  
automatically providing notification of said event responsively to said sampled ambient conditions.
2. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 1, wherein said event comprises:  
an incoming phone call.
3. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 1, further comprises:  
sampling ambient noise levels.
4. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 3, further comprising:  
selecting a volume level for a ringer responsive to a sampled ambient noise.
5. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 1, further comprising  
providing a menu for selecting a response based on said ambient conditions.
6. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 1, further comprising:  
utilizing a telephone microphone for sampling said ambient conditions.

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7. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 1, further comprising sampling said ambient conditions in response to said step of detecting an event requiring notification.

8. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 1, further comprising: sampling ambient conditions at selected time intervals.

9. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 1, further comprising: sampling a level of ambient noise, and producing a ring having a volume greater than said level of ambient noise

10. A method for intelligent notification, comprising: detecting an event requiring notification; electronically measuring an ambient condition; and providing notification of said event in a manner that is responsive to said electronically measured ambient conditions.

11. The method of Claim 10, further comprising: detecting an incoming phone call.

12. The method of Claim 11, further comprising: electronically measuring an ambient noise level in response to said incoming phone call.

13. The method of Claim 11, further comprising: electronically measuring an ambient noise level at selected intervals prior to said incoming phone call.

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14. The method Claim 11, further comprising:

providing a ring that has a volume louder than said ambient noise level by a selectable amount.

15. The method of Claim 10, further comprising:

utilizing a predefined notification signal for ambient conditions.

16. An intelligent telephone notification system, said intelligent telephone

notification system comprising:

a telephone;

a microphone for said telephone,

a ringer for said telephone;

a sampling circuit for sampling ambient noise using said microphone; and

a control for varying a volume of said ringer responsively to said ambient noise

17. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 16, further comprising:

a menu to permit an operator to select ringer characteristics for anticipated ambient noise conditions.

18. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 17, further comprising:

at least one of said ringer characteristics being a volume of said ringer.

19. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 17, further comprising:

at least one of said ringer characteristics being a tone of said ringer.

20. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 16, further comprising,

a detector for detecting an incoming call.

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21. The intelligent telephone notification system of Claim 20, further comprising:

a control for initiating operation of said sampling circuit to sample ambient noise responsively to said detector detecting an incoming call 26. A program storage device readable by a machine, said program storage device embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for intelligent notification, said method comprising:

detecting an event requiring notification;

electronically measuring an ambient condition; and

providing notification of said event in a manner that is responsive to said electronically measured ambient conditions.

22. The program storage device of Claim 22, said method further comprising:

detecting an incoming phone call.

23. The program storage device of Claim 23, said method further comprising:

electronically measuring an ambient noise level in response to said incoming phone call.

24. The program storage device of Claim 22, said method further comprising:

electronically measuring an ambient noise level at selected intervals prior to said incoming phone call.

25. The program storage device of Claim 22, said method further comprising:

providing a ring that has a volume louder than said ambient noise level by a selectable amount.

26. The program storage device of Claim 21, said method further comprising.

utilizing a predefined notification signal for ambient conditions.

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